

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for diagnosing a precancerous lesion or a cancer in a human mammal, comprising:

detecting and measuring gene copy number of a WIP1 gene having a nucleotide sequence ~~homology of at least 70% sequence identity to~~ of nucleotides 1-1818 of SEQ ID NO:1 or of nucleotides 1-2973 of SEQ ID NO:3 in a ~~biological~~ breast tissue or lung tissue sample from a ~~region of the~~ human mammal that is suspected to be precancerous or cancerous, thereby generating data for a test gene copy number; and

comparing the test gene copy number to data for a control gene copy number, wherein an amplification of the gene in the ~~biological~~ breast tissue or lung tissue sample relative to the control indicates the presence of a precancerous lesion or cancer in the human mammal.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Original) The method according to claim 1, wherein the data is stored in an electronic or a paper format, wherein the electronic format is selected from the group consisting of electronic mail, disk, compact disk (CD), digital versatile disk (DVD), memory card, memory chip, ROM or RAM, magnetic optical disk, tape, video, video clip, microfilm, internet, shared network, shared server; wherein the data is displayed, transmitted or analyzed via physical transfer, electronic transmission, video display, or telecommunication; wherein the data is compared and compiled at the site of sampling specimens or at a location where the data is transmitted.

Claims 4-53: (Cancelled)

54. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1 wherein said WIP1 gene associated with said detecting and measuring of said gene copy number has a nucleotide sequence of nucleotides 1-1818 of SEQ ID NO:1.

55. (Cancelled)

56. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 3 wherein said WIP1 gene associated with said detecting and measuring of said gene copy number has a nucleotide sequence of nucleotides 1-1818 of SEQ ID NO:1.

57. (NEW) The method of claim 1, wherein the gene copy number is determined by hybridization- and/or amplification-based assays.

58. (NEW) The method of claim 1, wherein the gene copy number is determined by ligase chain reaction (LCR).

59. (NEW) The method of claim 1, wherein the gene copy number is determined by polymerase chain reaction (PCR).

60. (NEW) The method of claim 1, wherein the gene copy number is determined by real-time quantitative RT-PCR.

61. (NEW) The method of claim 1, wherein the gene copy number is determined by fluorescence *in situ* hybridization (FISH).

62. (NEW) The method of claim 1, wherein the gene copy number is determined by comparative genomic hybridization (CGH).

63. (NEW) The method of claim 1, wherein the gene copy number is determined by microarray-based CGH.